# Gifted Education School Network 2022/23

Enhancing Students' Creativity and Higher-order Thinking Skills through Scaffolding and Self-directed Learning

School: Tai Po Methodist School

# English Department:

Catering for learner diversity (preceding practice)

# **Example 1 : Reading for information**

Core



#### Extended



#### **Protecting Your Eyesight**

It is very important to take good care of our eyes. Here are some tips:

- Maintain good posture by sitting upright and using chair and desk of suitable height.
- · Place reading materials at least 30 cm from the eyes.
- Rest your eyes for 3 to 5 minutes after reading or using the computer for 30 to 40 minutes.
- Wear quality sunglasses with ultraviolet rays protection under strong sunlight.
- Keep a balanced diet, including taking appropriate amount of foods rich in vitamin A, e.g. water melons, tomatoes, papayas and carrots.
- · Don't read in moving vehicles or under strong lighting.
- Don't buy eye drops off the counter when your eyes feel uncomfortable.
- If you have any eye discomfort or problems in seeing things, seek doctors' advice early.



# English Department:

Catering for learner diversity (preceding practice)

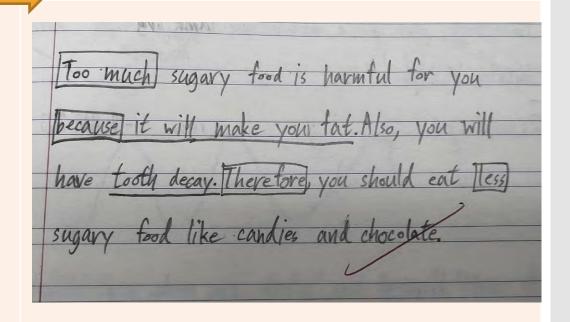
# **Example 2 : Writing (Giving advice)**

Core

Extended

Sentence Pattern

**Too much** sugary food is harmful for you because it will make you fat.



Integration of previous knowledge in the new patterns learnt

# Details of the try-out project

- Level: Primary 4
- Class size: 21
- Students' profile:
  - usually engaged in the lessons
  - willing to share and talk
  - some students struggle with dyslexia
  - weak at spelling

# Details of the try-out project

## **Topic:**

# Learning objectives:

To give healthy eating advice using the correct quantities and vocabulary items

# **Expected learning outcomes:**

- To develop students' positive attitude of having healthy eating habits
- To design a poster about healthy eating habits

Immersion of 3 core elements of gifted education:

Creativity

Higher-order thinking skills

Personal-social competence

# Details of the try-out project

# **Differentiated instructional strategies** used:

- (1) Tiered learning tasks
- (2) Tiered questioning
- (3) Flexible groupings

- 1. Pre-task: extensive reading (assigned before the lesson)
  - a. Different readings about food groups are assigned to students a week before the lesson
  - b. After reading, students complete a fact sheet about the facts of different food groups



#### Tai Po Methodist School 2022-2023 Second Term (Module 3 4B Unit 4) Fact sheet about food groups

Name:	( ) Class:	Date:	
	er reading the selected readings, opriate words in the readings.	finish the table about for	od groups below
Food Groups	Advantages	Disadvantages	Tips
Fat and Sugar	Sugary food can give us energy to run and play	bad for our     too much can make us fat and increase the risk of getting     disease	Choose low- fat cooking methods to avoid overweight and obesity
Dairy products	give us strong bones and     keep our brain, heart and muscles healthy     give us energy to play     help us see well	too many can make us fat	Choose cheese and yoghurt with little or no
Meat and fish	build blocks of bones,	too much can make us	Choose lean meat and trim away the
Fruit and vegetables	have lots of vitamins and     which keep us healthy and fight off sickness     vitamin C: keep our     and teeth healthy     fiber: keep our digestive system healthy	too many can cause digestive and heart problems	Choose fruits in different
Grain products	Fiber: help move food through our + keep our digestive system healthy give us energy to run, jump	too many can cause obesity and heart disease	Choose wholegrain foods (One example:

and play

### 2. Warm-up task

- a. Introduce the problem of child obesity in Hong Kong during the pandemic with a video
- b. Give students a task sheet that they need to fill in after watching it (tiered learning task)

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## 3. HOT questions after warm-up task

- a. Let students reflect on their eating habits (tiered questioning)
- 4. Introduce the context
  - a. Help students engage in the lesson

Kenny is a P4 Hong Kong student. He has gained a lot of weight during the pandemic.

We need to help Kenny. Let's make a poster about healthy eating and give it to him.

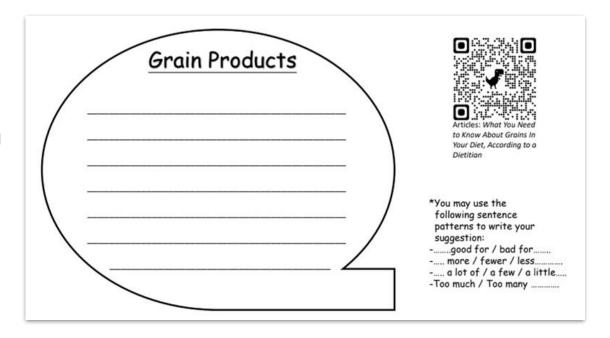


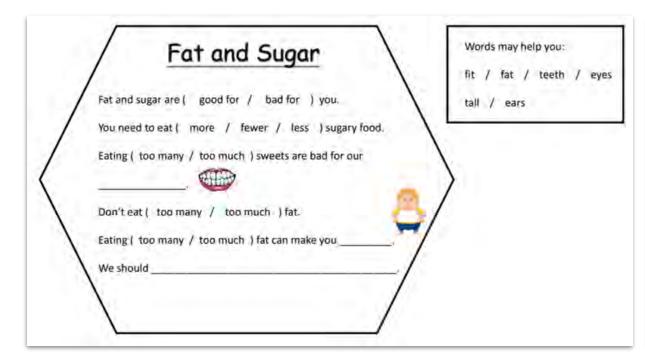
### Think about the questions.

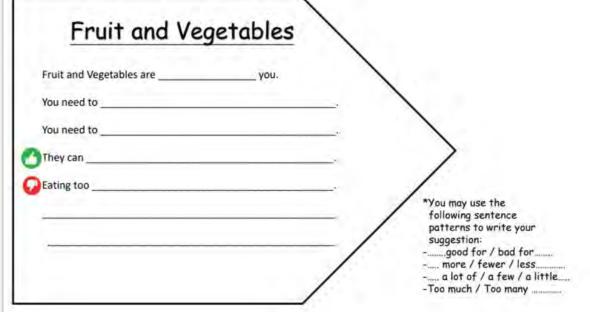
- 1. What will happen if kids keep eating unhealthy food?
- 2. Do you have healthy eating habits?

## 5. Individual task

 Each student gets a worksheet about a food group and write details about it (tiered learning task)







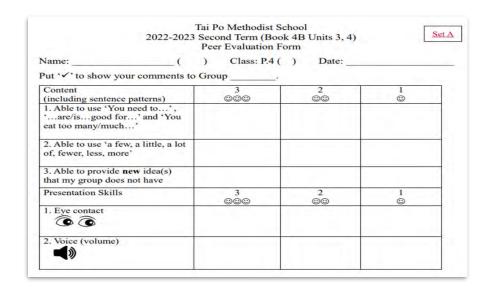
### 6. Group task

- a. Students combine their work and create a poster to promote healthy eating (flexible groupings)
- b. Add details to complete the poster (e.g. title, food pyramid, extra healthy eating tips)

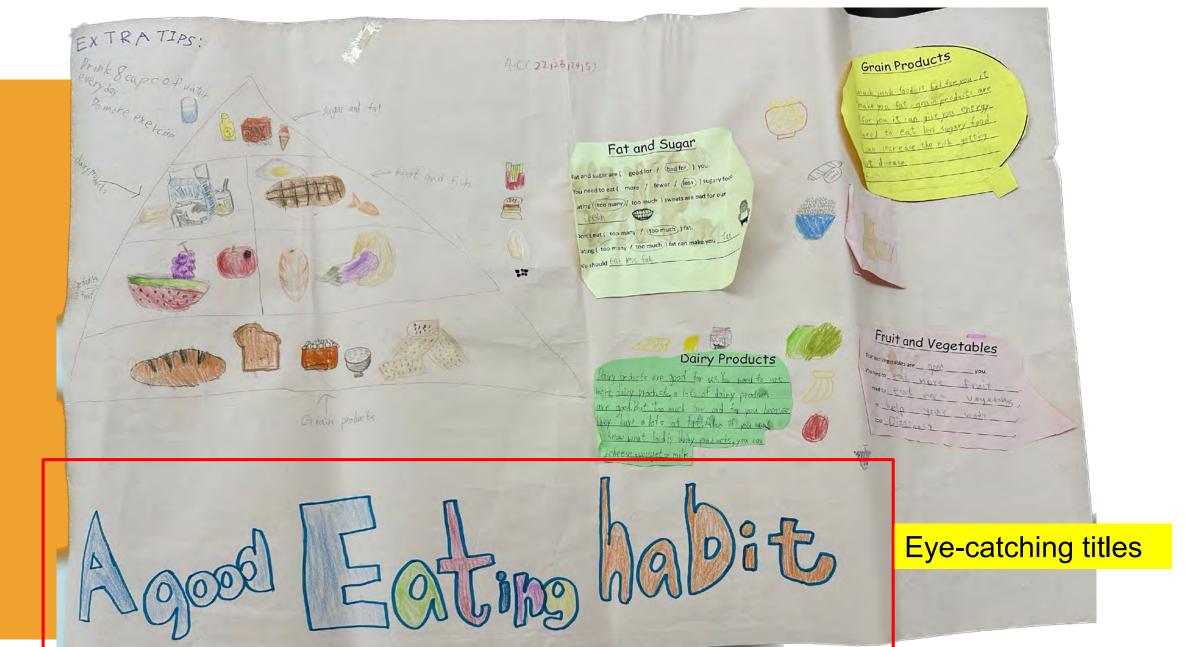
### 7. Presentation and peer evaluation

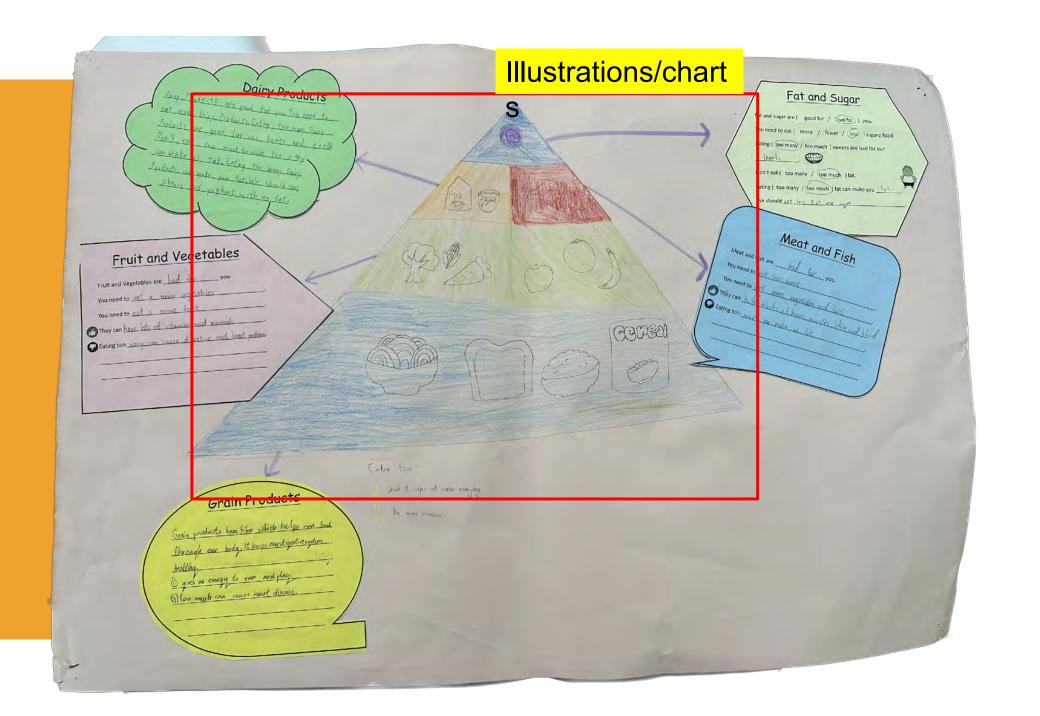
a. Each group takes turns to present their poster while other groups fill in a peer

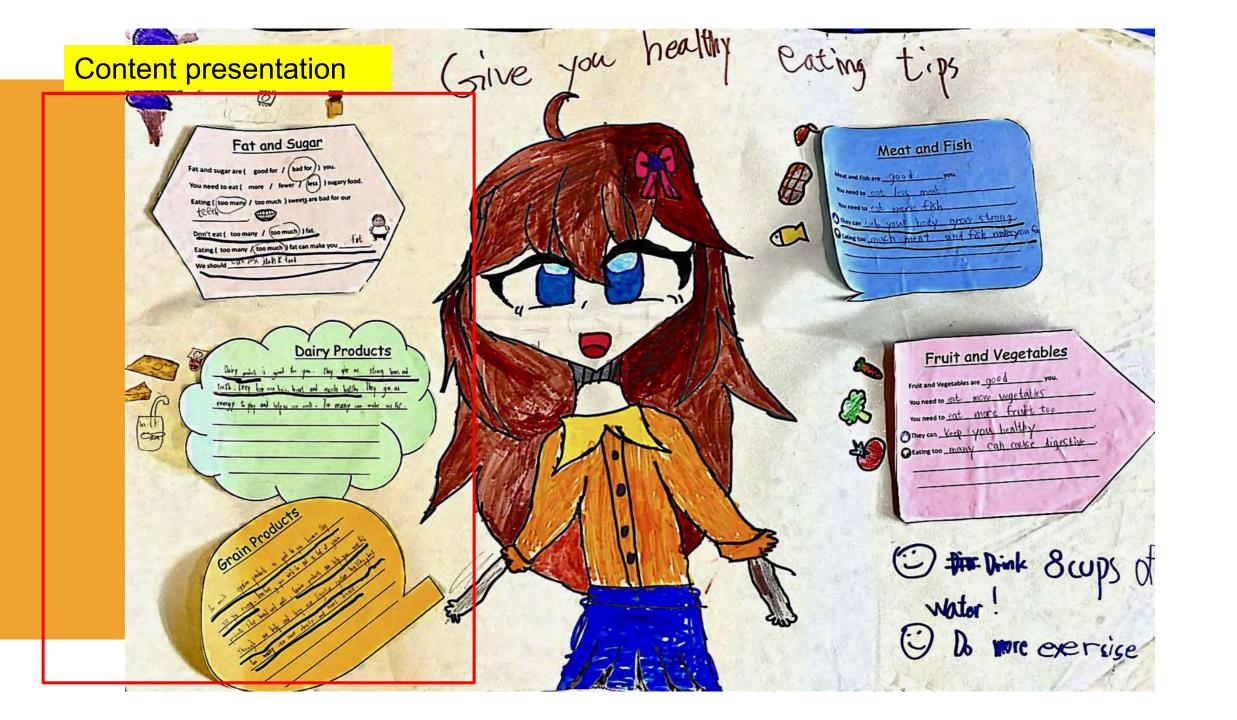
evaluation form (tiered learning task)



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# Reflections and Way Forward

## Something learnt from the try-out project

- Identifying Ss' strengths and weaknesses
  - → a good start to plan a module / lesson
- Build on strengths & Think of scaffolding strategies to help with their weaknesses for making learning achievable
  - → Reading diagrams / charts vs tired of reading long, factual texts [scaffolding: reading organizers])
- Set up of authentic scenario
  - more engaged & learning materials presented step-bystep in a more organized way
- Preparation of tiered tasks
  - → same aim but differences NOT ONLY in the requirement of language ability, but also in ways of expression (different text types)
- Creativity jumps in at unexpected times:
  - → when Ss are actively engaged in learning tasks (as showcase in Extra Tips in posters)

# Reflections and Way Forward

### Changes in students' learning

- Actualization of integrated skills
  - → reading, features of text types, writing, collaboration, creativity)
- A demonstration to students on how to learn new knowledge
  - → 1. collect information from different media
    - 2. read and make sense
    - 3. organize what Ss have learnt from different media and internalized as their own knowledge
    - 4.apply the knowledge on real life context / solve problems
- Change evidence
  - → Make notes / diagrams on what they have read even when not required by teachers

# Reflections and Way Forward

# Tiered Learning Tasks

→ Choice Board

# Tiered Questioning

→ Open-ended questions e.g. What will happen if ...?

Compare and contrast on ...

# Flexible Grouping

- → Assign roles to individuals to encourage participation
- → Gifted/ more able students are tasked to mentor their peers
  - → development of their leadership

### Peer-evaluation

- → Critical thinking skill
- → Reflect and improve

# Thank you!